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The Honourable Anne Kang
Minister of Municipal Affairs
PO Box 9056 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2
Via email: MUNI.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Kang:

RE: SUPPORT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT LEGISLATIVE REFORM INITIATIVE

On behalf of the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board, I write to you regarding the proposed reform of the *Local Government Act* (LGA), a topic that was considered in a panel discussion at the 2023 Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Annual Convention. We understand that the Regional District of Nanaimo is exploring the potential formation of a working group through the UBCM. This letter serves to express the CRD Board's support for this.

While it is recognized that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs has made significant incremental changes to the legislation, we believe more substantial modernization of the LGA is required to provide municipalities and regional districts with sufficient tools and/or authority to meet their expanding responsibilities and challenges. In addition, the social, political, and economic environments that local governments operate within continue to evolve in areas such as climate change, environmental stewardship, and a recognition of the importance of First Nations' participation in regional governance. These changes should be reflected in modernized legislation.

The CRD Board supports the Regional District of Nanaimo's request that the UBCM Executive form a working group to steer this important initiative. We are eager to see this initiative continue momentum and support the creation of a process to organize and enable broad and inclusive consultation to work toward a modernized legislative scheme.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Colin Plant
Chair, Capital Regional District Board

cc: CRD Board
Trish Mandewo, President, Union of BC Municipalities
Vanessa Craig, Chair, Regional District of Nanaimo Board
Ted Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer, CRD
Douglas Holmes, Chief Administrative Officer, RDN